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~~SECRET~~//

3.5(c)

3.5(c)

(S) SUBJ: NAVY SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED AMNESTY LAW; POSITIONS OF THE ARMED FORCES IN REGARD TO THE PROPOSED LAW

3.5(c)

3.3(b)(1)

3.5(c)

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

030818Z CIA 673968WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.
REPORT CLASS~~S E C R E T~~--WNINTEL-
DIST: 3 SEP 83
COUNTRY: ARGENTINA
SUBJ: NAVY SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED AMNESTY LAW; POSITIONS OF THE ARMED FORCES IN REGARD TO THE PROPOSED LAW

3.5(c)

3.3(b)(1)

3.3(b)(1)

THE TEXT OF THE PROPOSED AMNESTY LAW, OFFICIALLY KNOWN AS THE PACIFICATION LAW, WAS ALMOST READY FOR PROMULGATION AND THAT THE AMNESTY WOULD COVER THE PERIOD FROM 25 MAY 1973 TO 16 JULY 1982. ARMY OFFICERS CONTINUE TO PRESS THE AIR FORCE TO SUPPORT THE PROMULGATION OF THE LAW BEFORE NATIONAL ELECTIONS TAKE PLACE ON 30 OCTOBER.

3.3(b)(1)

3.3(b)(1)

NAVY OFFICERS HAD BEGUN TO LOBBY FOR THE IMMEDIATE PASSAGE OF THE AMNESTY LAW.

THIS ATTITUDE AMONG NAVY OFFICERS TO CIVIL COURT PROCEDINGS AGAINST RETIRED ADMIRAL EMILIO ((MASSERA)) AND TO THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE NAVY MECHANICS SCHOOL IN THE ANTI-SUBVERSIVE CAMPAIGN OF THE 1970'S.

3.3(b)(1)

ARMY AND NAVY OFFICERS ARE BECOMING VERY UPSET AS THE RESULT OF SEVERAL SCANDALS AND COURT CASES INVOLVING HIGH-RANKING MEMBERS OF THEIR SERVICES. (COMMENT: AS DESCRIBED ABOVE, THE AMNESTY WOULD COVER THE PERIOD FROM THE INSTALLATION OF HECTOR ((CAMPORA)) AS PRESIDENT TO THE INSTALLATION OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL (LTG) CRISTINO ((NICOLAIDES)) AS COMMANDER OF THE ARMY AND A MEMBER OF THE RULING JUNTA.)

3.3(b)(1)

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2.

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[redacted] NICOLAIDES WAS CONSTANTLY PRESSURING THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE JUNTA -- ADMIRAL RUBEN OSCAR ((FRANCO)), COMMANDER OF THE NAVY; AND LTG AUGUSTO JORGE ((HUGHES)), COMMANDER OF THE AIR FORCE -- TO SUPPORT THE IMMEDIATE PASSAGE OF THE PROPOSED AMNESTY LAW. [redacted] AS OF THAT TIME, AIR FORCE AND NAVY OFFICERS WANTED TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER THE OCTOBER ELECTIONS TO PROMULGATE THE LAW, FEELING THAT THEY COULD THEN FORCE THE PRESIDENT-ELECT TO COMMIT HIMSELF TO THE DEFENSE OF THE LAW. [redacted] AS A MINIMUM, AIR FORCE OFFICERS WANTED TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED LAW WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES OF THE PERONIST MOVEMENT AND OF THE RADICAL CIVIC UNION (UCR) BEFORE TAKING ANY ACTION IN REGARD TO IT.

3. [redacted] LTG NICOLAIDES WAS ADVOCATING THE IMMEDIATE PROMULGATION OF THE AMNESTY LAW FOR THESE TWO REASONS:

A. THE TWO HUNDRED ARMED FORCES O FFICERS AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS CURRENTLY FACING CHARGES BECAUSE OF EXCESSES COMMITTED DURING THE ANTI-SUBVERSIVE CAMPAIGN HAVE THREATENED TO CONTACT REPORTERS AND IMPLICATE OTHER ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL IN THESE INCIDENTS.

[redacted] COMMENT: THE MAJORITY OF ARMED FORCES OFFICERS NOW UNDER ARREST HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH SUCH COMMON CRIMES AS RAPE AND ROBBERY. IF THEY WERE TO IMPLICATE OTHER OFFICERS IN SIMILAR CRIMES, A PUBLIC SCANDAL WHICH WOULD DISCREDIT THE ARMED FORCES WOULD FOLLOW.)

B. FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL POLICEMEN CALLED TO TESTIFY IN COURT ACTIONS BROUGHT BY RELATIVES OF PERSONS WHO DISAPPEARED DURING THE ANTI-SUBVERSIVE CAMPAIGN ARE PRESSURING THE ARMY TO PROTECT THEM SINCE THEY SERVED UNDER HE ARMY'S OPERATIONAL CONTROL DURING THE CAMPAIGN.

[redacted] COMMENT: FREQUENTLY, POLICEMEN HAVE BEEN AMONG THE FIRST CALLED TO TESTIFY IN CASES CONCERNING INDIVIDUALS WHO DISAPPEARED.)

[redacted]

WARNING: REPORT CLASS S E C R E T--WARNING NOTICE - INTELLIGENCE SOURCES OR METHODS INVOLVED-[redacted]--

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3.3(b)(1) 3.3(b)(1) 3.3(b)(1) 3.3(b)(1) 3.3(b)(1) 3.3(b)(1) 3.5(c) 3.5(c) 3.5(c)

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